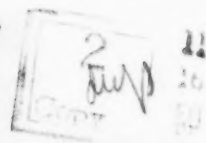


# AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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## AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DR. KARL GRUBER IN THE UNITED STATES.

Austria's Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber arrived in New York by plane from London in the afternoon of October 8 and immediately had an opportunity to meet with the newly-appointed U.S. Envoy and High Commissioner for Austria, Walter J. Donnelly. That same evening Dr. Gruber left for Washington.

During his four-day visit to the United States capital, Dr. Gruber was received by President Truman on Wednesday, October 11, at 12 o'clock noon. On the same day the Austrian Foreign Minister paid a visit to Secretary of State Dean Acheson and to Undersecretary James E. Webb, as well as to a number of high-ranking State Department officials. On Thursday, October 12, Dr. Gruber made a courtesy call on Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall and Undersecretary Robert Lovett. In the afternoon of the same day he called on ECA Administrator William Foster. Dr. Gruber spoke at the National Press Club (copies of his speech are available at the Austrian Legation, 1706 Twenty-First Street, N.W., Washington 9, D.C.), and lectured at Georgetown University on Tuesday, October 10.

On the same day the Austrian Minister and Mrs. Kleinwaechter gave a dinner at their residence in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Gruber. The following American personalities were among those that attended: Mr. W. Averell Harriman, Special Assistant to the President; Mr. George W. Perkins, Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs; Mr. John D. Hickerson, Assistant Secretary of State for United Nations Affairs; Mr. James C. H. Bonbright, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs; Mr. Homer M. Byington, Jr., Director of the Office of Western European Affairs; Mr. Francis Williamson, Deputy Director of the Office of Western European Affairs, and their Ladies.

In the evening of the 11th, Undersecretary of State James E. Webb, acting for Secretary Acheson, gave a dinner in honor of the Austrian Foreign Minister and Mrs. Gruber. The reception given in Dr. Gruber's honor at the residence of the Austrian Minister in the afternoon of October 12 was attended by many government officials, leading personalities in public life and industry and many members of the diplomatic corps.

From Washington Dr. Karl Gruber proceeded to New Orleans where he was the scheduled speaker before the local branch of the Foreign Policy Association on October 16. On the 18th the Austrian Foreign Minister addressed the Council on World Affairs in St. Louis. He left the latter city on the 19th and travelled to Cincinnati where he spoke before that city's branch of the Council on World Affairs the same night. Dr. Gruber went on to Buffalo on October 20 to address the Buffalo Council on World Affairs.

Foreign Minister Gruber is scheduled to arrive at La Guardia Airport, New York, on Sunday, October 22. His New York program includes lectures before the Foreign Policy Association (October 23), the Council on Foreign Relations (October 24), the Overseas Press Club and at Columbia University (both on October 25).

COMMUNIST STRIKE AND WAVE OF TERROR AGAINST AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT COLLAPSES. On September 26, after several weeks of thorough deliberation, the Austrian Government decided to put a new wage-and-price agreement into effect on October 1, in connection with the gradual elimination of subsidies on certain ECA-financed imports. The new agreement -- the fourth of its kind since the end of the war -- is designed to compensate wage earners and salaried people as fully as possible for the increase in the cost of living resulting from higher domestic prices for wheat and other grains, flour, bread, sugar, coal and electricity. Wages and salaries were generally increased by ten per cent; this increase is greater in the lower income brackets since a minimum wage increase of 100 schillings per month was also granted to those whose wages were 1000 schillings or less. These higher salaries will increase the government's budget expenditures by some seven hundred million schillings annually but the administration hopes to absorb part of these

# ISTRIAN INFORMATION

Submitted by the Information Department  
of the ISTRIAN CONSULTATIVE BOARD

1. The Istrian Information Department has been established to provide information to the Istrian Consultative Board and to the public. The Department is organized into several sections, each of which is responsible for a specific area of information. The sections are: (a) General Information, (b) Political Information, (c) Economic Information, (d) Social Information, (e) Cultural Information, (f) Educational Information, (g) Health Information, (h) Sports Information, (i) Entertainment Information, (j) Miscellaneous Information.

2. The Department is currently working on a number of projects, including: (a) A study of the Istrian population, (b) A study of the Istrian economy, (c) A study of the Istrian social structure, (d) A study of the Istrian culture, (e) A study of the Istrian education system, (f) A study of the Istrian health care system, (g) A study of the Istrian sports system, (h) A study of the Istrian entertainment system, (i) A study of the Istrian miscellaneous information.

3. The Department is also responsible for the collection and dissemination of information. It has a number of channels through which it disseminates information, including: (a) The Istrian Information Bulletin, (b) The Istrian Information Newsletter, (c) The Istrian Information Website, (d) The Istrian Information Radio, (e) The Istrian Information Television, (f) The Istrian Information Magazine, (g) The Istrian Information Book, (h) The Istrian Information Film, (i) The Istrian Information Document, (j) The Istrian Information Map.

4. The Department is also responsible for the collection of information. It has a number of channels through which it collects information, including: (a) The Istrian Information Survey, (b) The Istrian Information Interview, (c) The Istrian Information Focus Group, (d) The Istrian Information Panel, (e) The Istrian Information Experiment, (f) The Istrian Information Observation, (g) The Istrian Information Case Study, (h) The Istrian Information Content Analysis, (i) The Istrian Information Discourse Analysis, (j) The Istrian Information Text Analysis.

5. The Department is also responsible for the analysis of information. It has a number of channels through which it analyzes information, including: (a) The Istrian Information Statistical Analysis, (b) The Istrian Information Qualitative Analysis, (c) The Istrian Information Quantitative Analysis, (d) The Istrian Information Content Analysis, (e) The Istrian Information Discourse Analysis, (f) The Istrian Information Text Analysis, (g) The Istrian Information Case Study, (h) The Istrian Information Experiment, (i) The Istrian Information Observation, (j) The Istrian Information Focus Group, (k) The Istrian Information Interview, (l) The Istrian Information Survey.

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10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-2

additional expenditures by the budget surpluses which have recently developed. The increase in labor costs to be borne by private industry has been estimated by some sources at 2 billion schillings. The "Arbeiter-Zeitung" in Vienna calculates that a family of two will have to spend 12.64 schillings per week (or 54.73 schillings per month) more for those commodities that will increase in price as a result of the new wage-and-price agreement. On the other hand, the agreement calls for a wage increase of at least 100 schillings per month, from which, however, between 20 to 30 schillings must be deducted for increased taxes and social security payments, depending on the wage earners total income. These economic measures, which not only both majority parties in the coalition government but also all groups vitally interested in the economy, including the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions, have recognized as an absolute necessity, were used as a pretext by the Communists to promote unrest and disorder among the population and to stage a mass movement against the government.

According to a review of the situation by Ferdinand Graf, Undersecretary of State in the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, published by the "Kleines Volksblatt", on September 26 the Communists made their first attempt to bring pressure on the Austrian Government by staging a demonstration in front of the Federal Chancellery at the Ballhausplatz. But since this first attempt was a failure, the Central Committee of the Austrian Communist Party decided to adopt other tactics. Various disturbances and obstructive measures were engineered and a so-called "all-Austrian Shop Steward Conference", composed almost exclusively of Communist elements, was called for September 30. At this Shop Steward Conference, which met in a Russian district of Vienna, in fact in a Soviet-controlled plant (The Rail Car Works of Florisdorf), an ultimatum was given to the Federal Government, according to which the administration was called upon to withdraw the fourth wage-and-price agreement by October 3, at midnight, failing which, a general strike would be proclaimed for October 4. Although the Federal Government and above all the Ministry of the Interior responsible for the security of the nation knew full well that this time the Communists had set themselves a far-reaching objective, rejection of the Communist ultimatum by the government was a foregone conclusion. The government was firmly resolved not to bow to any such demands and the executive organs of state were ordered on a permanent alert for any eventuality as of October 3 at 5 p.m.

On October 4, the day the Communist-proclaimed general strike was to take place, the following picture of events unfurled: in Vienna, with the exception of the striking USIA (Russian-controlled) plants located in districts occupied by the Russians, all economic life and activity was completely normal. All rail, postal, light and gas facilities continued in full operation. All federal highways were kept open and the only traffic obstructions were those caused by Communist road blocks erected in some of Vienna's outlying districts and blocking secondary roads leading to Lower Austria. Some of the street barricades were manned by factory guards from the USIA plants who carried automatic revolvers. In the first hours of the strike, two centers of action crystallized in Lower Austria: namely, the districts of Wiener Neustadt and St. Poelten. But the other large plants in Lower Austria, particularly in the district of Neunkirchen, did not respond at all to the strike call. In the entire Russian-occupied Burgenland only 30 employees of the USIA went out on strike. In the Russian-occupied Muehlviertel (Upper Austria) barely half a dozen USIA plants supported the Communist walkout. In Upper Austria, where a combination of the Communists and certain other elements had succeeded in paralyzing the United Austrian Iron and Steel Works and the Steyr Works a week before, anti-Communist workers gained the upper hand as the day progressed. The United Austrian Iron and Steel Works dropped out of the strike on October 4 and on the following day the workers at the Steyr plant followed suit. In the provinces of Salzburg, Tyrol, Vorarlberg and Carinthia there was no strike activity worth mentioning. In Styria, the Communists concentrated their efforts on Donawitz, the seat of the Alpine Montangesellschaft. There, a group of Communist terrorists tried to blow out the blast furnaces, which action, had it been successful, would have paralyzed production for several months. This criminal attempt was frustrated by the prompt action of Styria's security organs. All Communist shop stewards in Donawitz were placed under arrest and labor peace was restored within a matter of hours.

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10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-3

When the Communists realized at noon on October 4 that the general strike they had called was well on the way to complete collapse, they again changed their tactics and embarked upon a course of direct action, terrorism and sabotage. The Communist flying squads, which for months had been established and trained for just such a large-scale mass action, were called out in the districts of Wiener Neustadt, St. Poelten, Stadlau, Liesing and Atzgersdorf. Travelling in USIA trucks and led by Communist officials especially trained for street fighting, these action squads went to work. They tried to occupy plant after plant and stop production. Where threats failed to work, they resorted to brute force. But a majority of workers in most of the plants put up a stiff and successful resistance.

The fewer the plants that went out on strike, the more active the shock units became. In the afternoon of October 4 the order went out from the Communist Central Committee to occupy as many public buildings as possible. The postoffice of Wiener Neustadt and that of Baden, the railroad station of St. Poelten and a series of smaller railroad stations in the Vienna area were occupied or the roads leading to them blocked by the Communist action squads. In Vienna too the Communist shock troops intensified their activity after a "mass demonstration" at the Vienna City Hall on October 4 had failed to arouse public backing. In the later hours of the day the Ministry of the Interior decided to meet force with force. Police and gendarmerie units responded fully to their duty. On the morning of the 5th the Federal Government met in special session and voted to launch an energetic protest with the Allied Council and to address an appeal to the Governments of the Four Occupation Powers. In the meantime, the police and gendarmerie took ever-stronger action against the Communist saboteurs, and the support from the workers and other groups of the population became ever more active. In the face of this resolute resistance to Communist threats on the part of the non-Communist population, the Central Committee of the Communist Party called off their two-day-old strike at a new and hurriedly-assembled conference of shop stewards.

Immediately after the collapse of the Communist-inspired general strike, the Austrian Federal Government addressed a proclamation to the Austrian people stating that the assault of irresponsible elements against Austria and her economy had collapsed in the face of the resolute resistance of the Austrian population and of the spirited action of the executive organs of state. "In these days," the proclamation says, "since the nation itself was at stake, all political differences were laid aside. The entire nation formed a front for the defense of Austria. If we preserve this spirit of unity, then we also need not fear the future; then the people of Austria will always be able to deal with this handful of irresponsible elements, even if the latter should enjoy the more or less direct support of a foreign power!" A proclamation of the Socialist Party of Austria said that the Republic of Austria had overcome the most serious threat to its existence since its re-establishment. The Socialists pointed with pride to the fact that during these historic days the country's workers, both in the factories and on the streets, had withstood Communist terror and had faithfully rallied to the side of freedom and Democracy. The Socialist proclamation called upon the workers to break the stronghold of the USIA, adding that the struggle for Austria's freedom and independence was by no means over. The Austrian Federation of Trade Unions also addressed a proclamation to all workers and employees, and especially to the shop stewards and union representatives, thanking them for their courage and devotion to freedom and Democracy. "In the future too we shall understand how to unite and close our ranks in active opposition to all terrorist attacks and ward off every assault on our freedom, in order to fight step by step for a better future."

AUSTRIA APPEALS TO THE FOUR FOREIGN MINISTERS. Following a cabinet decision, Austria's Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber on October 5 sent a telegram to the Foreign Ministers of the four Occupation Powers in the name of the Austrian Government, in which he complained that the Soviet Kommandatura in Wiener Neustadt had interfered with the Austrian Government's attempt to clear out Communist strikers from the public buildings that the Communists had occupied illegally. The Austrian Government has found itself forced to request the Allied Council to take immediate measures to enable the Austrian Federal Government to perform its constitutional duties. It therefore urgently appealed to the Council to support it in its efforts to maintain order in the country.





10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-4

In Washington, on October 8, Acting Secretary of State James E. Webb released the text of the message he had sent to the Austrian authorities upon receipt of Dr. Gruber's telegram. The text of the message follows:

"I have just received your telegram of October 5 addressed to Mr. Acheson in which you refer to the urgent request submitted by your Government to the Allied Council to take immediate appropriate measures to enable the Federal Government to accomplish its constitutional duties and appeal to the United States Government as an occupying power to support your Government in its efforts to maintain order.

"The actions taken by your Government to maintain law and order in the face of recent Communist-inspired and Soviet-supported disturbances have the full support of this Government. I am particularly gratified at the courageous and determined manner in which your Government and the Austrian people have met and are meeting their responsibilities in the face of these illegal acts. Please be assured that this Government will take proper action to fulfill its international commitments with respect to Austria, and in particular to assure maintenance of law and order in the area of its responsibilities in Austria. Appropriate instructions are being issued to the United States High Commissioner.

"I issued a statement to the press along the foregoing lines shortly prior to the time your telegram came to my attention and I hope that my views, and I am sure they speak for the American people as a whole, will serve to assure your Government and people of our confidence in them and of our deep appreciation of the firmness of purpose which they have displayed in their efforts to maintain their independence and freedom of action under these trying circumstances."

In two formal notes, Great Britain and France also gave the assurance that they will give "full support to the Austrian Government in the discharge of its constitutional duties."

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF CARINTHIAN PLEBISCITE. On October 9 the Diet of Carinthia held a special session in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Carinthian Plebiscite in 1920. Attending the special session as guests of honor were President Renner, Chancellor Figl, several other members of the government, Mayor Koerner of Vienna and representatives of other Austrian provinces. Dr. Karl Renner took the occasion to deliver a speech in which he stressed, on the one hand, the immutability and inviolability of Austria's southern border which was established thirty years ago by the plebiscite; and, on the other hand with equal force, Austria's firm determination to respect the rights of the Slovene minority in Carinthia and to promote friendly relations with Yugoslavia. Dr. Renner said: "We want peace with our neighbor to the southeast. We do not want the general unrest in Europe and the world to produce disturbances at this, our border again. It is with sincere sympathy that we are following Yugoslavia's struggle for existence", the President added, "and we entertain but one wish: that the friendly relations, which were fortunately re-established after the final settlement of differences inherited from former days, may remain undisturbed by the troubles of our time and last for all time to come. May the finally secured border", concluded Austria's Chief of State, "serve only to prevent any interference of one country in the internal affairs of the other, but not as a dividing wall; may it rather serve as a bridge for economic cooperation and cultural exchange. It is in this spirit and in no other that Austria and Carinthia are celebrating the anniversary of the plebiscite."

AUSTRIAN STATESMEN VISIT SCANDINAVIA. Austrian Chancellor Leopold Figl and Vice-Chancellor Adolf Schaerf, accompanied by their wives, left Vienna on October 14 for an official visit to the Scandinavian capitals. They will spend three days in Stockholm before proceeding to Oslo and Copenhagen.

U.S.I.A. DUMPING. The USIA, as the Administration of Russian-controlled economic enterprises in Austria is known, recently began to establish sales outlets in Vienna and Lower Austria where certain commodities, including foodstuffs, textiles and, in one case, even motorcycles imported from Czechoslovakia, are offered at sharply reduced prices. By the end of September, there were 14 such USIA sales offices in Vienna and 21 in Lower Austria. Viennese business circles fear that these sales offices, whose activities represent a serious competitive



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10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-5

threat to legitimate domestic trade, will be considerably increased in number and scope in the near future. The USIA sales offices are in many instances in a position to underbid legitimate trade outlets in price because they do not pay any customs duties or taxes and in many cases even fail to make the social welfare contributions required by law. Austria's Minister of Social Services recently said in this connection that the USIA-operated enterprises were already in debt in the amount of about 20 million schillings for unremitted social welfare payments, including 11 million schillings alone for the sickness fund of Lower Austria.

NEW U.S. HIGH COMMISSIONER OFF FOR AUSTRIA. Mr. Walter J. Donnelly, the newly appointed U.S. High Commissioner for Austria, left La Guardia Field for Rome on October 11 en route to Vienna where he will assume his duties as High Commissioner and also as United States Minister to Austria on or about October 20.

Lt. Gen. Geoffrey Keyes, former U.S. High Commissioner in Austria and Commanding General of the U.S. Forces in Austria, paid a farewell visit to President Dr. Karl Renner on October 4. In the course of a long and friendly talk, the President of Austria warmly thanked the departing High Commissioner for his valuable activity.

At a reception given in his honor at the Federal Chancellery, Chancellor Figl stated that although the assistance for overcoming the pressing problems of daily life had been rendered during the era of General Mark W. Clark, it was during the era of General Keyes that the gratifying but complicated task of rehabilitating Austria's economy had been undertaken. Dr. Figl said that General Keyes had dedicated himself to this task with particular devotion and that thanks to his wide knowledge he had given valuable assistance and advice to the Austrian Government. In replying, General Keyes expressed gratification at the fact that the work of reconstruction had made such notable progress during the past few years; he said that he had always been confident of the future of Austria and that, as was now apparent, this confidence had been completely justified.

NEW AUSTRIAN CONSUL GENERAL IN CHICAGO. Mr. Frank P. Anderwald has been appointed Honorary Austrian Consul General for the States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin, with offices in Chicago at 77 West Washington Street. The appointment was contained in an Austrian Government decree of April 27, 1950, and the exequatur issued by the U.S. Government on August 25, 1950.

MAYOR OF GRAZ ATTENDS "GRAZ WEEK" FESTIVITIES IN MONTCLAIR, N.J. In celebration of the 1st anniversary of the affiliation of friendship between the city of Montclair, New Jersey, and the city of Graz, the capital of the Province of Styria in Austria, the organization known as the Overseas Neighbors have proclaimed the week of October 9 - 14, 1950, as "Graz Week" in Montclair. Dr. Eduard Speck, the Mayor of Graz and Chairman of the Overseas Neighbors (Freunde in Uebersee) in Graz, and Dr. Renate Mayer, Secretary of the organization, were officially invited to Montclair for the occasion. Thanks to the support of the State Department's Exchange of Persons Branch, Dr. Speck was able to accept the invitation. He arrived in New York accompanied by Dr. Renate Mayer on October 6. Many special events were held in Montclair during "Graz Week". These were highlighted by a special session of the Montclair Municipal Council at which Mayor Speck was made an Honorary Citizen of Montclair, and a banquet at the Montclair Golf Club at which Mayor Speck, dignitaries of the City of Montclair and representatives of the State Department and the Austrian General Consulate expressed gratification at the excellent development of the Montclair-Graz affiliation of friendship. Mr. Charles L. Todd, Executive Secretary of Operation Democracy, Inc., who has organized more than 150 affiliations between American and European cities said: "I have never seen an affiliation program growing as rapidly and as spontaneously as the Montclair-Graz program has done."

Following Graz Week, an exhibition was held at the First National Bank of Montclair, which featured samples of Graz handicraft and artistic work as well as drawings by Graz school children.

At the close of the events which had brought him to Montclair, Mayor Speck began a five-week study trip through the United States.





10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-6

AUSTRIA ENDS "BASIC" RATE OF EXCHANGE ON SCHILLING. On October 5, 1950, the Austrian National Bank abolished the so-called basic rate of exchange of the Austrian schilling in relation to the United States dollar. A basic rate of 14.40 Austrian schillings to the U.S. dollar had been established on November 21, 1949, for the import of certain Marshall Plan goods such as bread cereals, flour, fats, sugar, coal, seeds, fertilizer, fodder and various kinds of medical supplies. Henceforth, all foreign trade will be figured at the present trading rate of 21.36 schillings to the dollar. The so-called tourist rate of exchange of 26 schillings to the dollar remains unchanged. This latter rate also applies to most categories of capital transfer. However, the regulation of the National Bank lists certain services and categories of capital transactions to which the rate of 21.36 schillings to the dollar will henceforth be applicable, instead of the premium rate of 26 schillings to the dollar as heretofore. These categories include among others: auxiliary costs connected with the sale of goods, (such as freight charges, customs fees, warehouse charges, bank fees, overprice allowances and the like), cost of labor for the processing of raw materials imported from abroad, balances from the reciprocal payment settlements of transport firms, proceeds from film rentals and costs of motion picture prints. For all other services and all other categories of capital transactions the premium rate of 26 schillings to the dollar will continue to remain in effect. As a result of these changes in the rates of exchange, the cost of food imports will increase and that of imports of finished goods decrease. The latter imports often had to be effected at the rate of 26 schillings to the dollar. The cost of imported raw materials will remain essentially unchanged. The rates applied to Austrian exports are not materially affected by the new regulation of the Austrian National Bank. Certain export circles, however, had hoped that the trading rate would be raised in order to facilitate Austrian exports abroad, but such an increase would have been accompanied by an inordinate rise in the cost of a whole series of essential import goods on which Austria's economy is dependent. It is generally assumed that the new exchange regulations will contribute to a normalization of the country's foreign trade.

AUSTRIA'S ECONOMIC BALANCE IN 1949. In a special issue of its publication, released at the end of September, the Institute of Economic Research in Vienna attempted a survey of Austria's economic balance in 1948 and 1949. According to this survey, Austria's gross national output, as expressed in 1937 prices, reached the figure of 10.2 billion schillings in 1949, thus exceeding slightly the output level of 1937 (10 billion). The production increase ascertained in 1948 and 1949 was due almost exclusively to an increase in productivity. Considering the fact that the number of salaried people in 1948 and in 1949 was only 1.5% and 0.6% greater, respectively, than in the years immediately preceding, the survey reaches the conclusion that the productivity of the country's overall economy increased by 13% in 1948 and by 11% in 1949. It is quick to add, however, that not all branches of industry shared in this general production increase to an equal extent. Austria's industrial production, which in 1947 had reached only 55.8% of the 1937 level, rose to 88.7% in 1948 and to 118.5% (of the prewar level) in 1949, whereas her agricultural production in 1949 amounted to only 79.1% of the 1937 output. The Institute therefore concludes that the industrial production index in 1948 had risen by fully 59% over that of the previous year. The 34% increase reflected by the 1949 output was not quite as impressive, but the survey points out that with better capacity utilization the rate of production increase is bound to decline. The export volume (still computed on the 1937 price basis) increased from 26.5% in 1947 to 51.6% in 1948 and to 70.3% of the prewar level in 1949. The volume of imports, including aid supplies, for the same period increased from 54.8% to 83.3% and to 107.3%, respectively. Particularly worthy of note in the opinion of the Institute for Economic Research is the growth of investments during the last few years. Whereas in 1937 investments had absorbed only 6% of the total volume of goods and services, in 1949 almost 12%, or about twice as much, of the national productive output was channeled into investments.





AUSTRIAN DELEGATION ATTENDS TRADE AND TARIFF CONFERENCE AT TORQUAY.

For the first time an Austrian delegation is attending the meetings of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs organization (GATT) now being held at Torquay, England. Austria's delegation, which comprises representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Finance and Agriculture, as well as of the Chambers of Commerce, Labor and Agriculture, will submit Austria's wishes in the field of tariff reductions and attempt to coordinate them with those of other countries. Austria attaches particular importance to these negotiations since her participation in GATT is the first opportunity the country has had of concluding tariff agreements with the United States.

AUSTRIAN TRADE AGREEMENTS. On October 6, Ireland's Foreign Minister McBride and Austria's Minister in Paris, H. Schmid, formally signed the Austrian-Irish trade agreement which had been provisionally signed in Dublin at the end of July. The agreement lays the foundation for more intensive trade relations between the two countries along the lines of European Economic Cooperation. Austria's main exports to Ireland will consist of wood products, paper and paper products, steel and steel products, metal products, apparatus and machinery, electrical supplies, various textiles, glassware, leather goods, optical and photographic instruments and various pharmaceutical and chemical products. In exchange, Ireland will export to Austria primarily agricultural products, certain textiles, linnen and other typical Irish products. As heretofore, payments will continue to be made in pounds sterling.

The trade agreement between Austria and Poland, which was provisionally signed on August 1, 1950, was formally signed in Vienna on October 3 by Foreign Minister Gruber and the Polish Chargé d'Affaires.

Early in October, an Austrian trade delegation left for Prague to initiate negotiations for the settlement of trade and payments relations between Austria and Czechoslovakia.

FINAL REPORT ON VIENNA'S 1950 AUTUMN TRADE FAIR. The results of this year's Autumn Trade Fair in Vienna have exceeded all expectations, according to the final report released by the Fair's organization committee. Almost all branches of industry and handicraft received a greater number of orders than during the Spring Fair. Austria is growing in importance as a "store" of non-essential consumer goods, the manufacture of which is being curtailed in other countries in favor of increased production of war materials, the report says.

Four hundred and forty-three firms from the following 13 countries rented a total of 230 stands: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The report also furnishes the following details:

Textiles showed a definite upward trend. Orders from the Austrian provinces increased by 100% as compared to the number of orders placed during the Spring Fair. Owing to the number of export orders on hand, no further spot sales can be made. Transactions were concluded with the Balkan and Scandinavian countries, and with the United Kingdom. Negotiations for the delivery of spun rayon (staple fibre) were initiated with United States and Indian firms.

The luxury goods and jewelry exhibitors also reported a larger number of sales, with orders received primarily from the United States, Italy, Brazil and Sweden. The sale of Christmas tree and glass decorations was 50% greater than at the Spring Fair, with export orders considerably in excess of expectations. Owing to price reductions, the sale of ceramics also showed a marked improvement, Australia becoming the most promising market. Great interest was shown in the products of the Vienna Augarten Porcelain Works which has sent samples to Australia, Syria and the Netherlands.

Leather goods manufacturers reported a 50% increase in business. Travel accessories made of plastic materials sold especially well. Orders for fine leather goods have been received from the Scandinavian countries, Italy, the United States, France and England.

Machinery manufacturers also did a brisk business. Many orders for building materials and wooden frame houses were received, mainly from Israel and Egypt. Negotiations were started for the sale of railroad cars to Uruguay.



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AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-8

1950 GRAZ AUTUMN FAIR OPENED. The 1950 Graz Autumn Fair, the fifth to be held in the Styrian capital since the end of the war, was opened on September 30. Of the 750 exhibiting firms, 70 were foreign with firms of Western Germany, Italy and Yugoslavia leading the list. Yugoslavia's share of participation amounted to 1.8 million schillings, Italy's to 70 million lire and Western Germany's to 19,000 dollars. A special exhibition on transportation was also held in connection with the trade fair. At the opening of the event, Governor Krainer of Styria expressed the wish that the commercial relations between Austria and Yugoslavia would be further strengthened in the future.

AUSTRIAN EXPORT FUND BEGINS OPERATIONS. The "Austrian Export Fund", a limited liability company recently established by the Austrian Government with a revolving capital of 25 million schillings (approximately 1.2 million dollars), has now begun operations. The Fund extends credit to manufacturers up to the full amount of actual production costs on specific export orders. It also advances up to 80% of the total value of export orders at the time of their shipment. These credits are limited to orders from the United States or those that are payable in free U.S. dollars. They are short-term credits of up to six months (in some cases up to twelve months) at an interest rate of 4-1/2% per year. The minimum credit extended per transaction is 10,000 schillings.

AUSTRIAN TRADE DELEGATE INVITES INQUIRIES. A variety of new samples from Austria has been received in New York, it was announced by Mr. George E. Fuerstenberg, Austrian Trade Delegate in the United States. Among the samples were such traditional Austrian goods as artificial flowers, ski boots, ski sticks, ski lacquers, ski waxes, children's dresses in embroidered silk, colorful leather pants for boys and girls, wood sculptures, blotting paper signature books, screwless pocket lighters, terrycloth towels, knitted goods, ladies bags, wood sculptured chandeliers, antique style furniture, and many others.

In addition, the Austrian Trade Delegate receives daily a large number of offers for export by Austrian firms, all of which are at the disposal of American firms who will contact his office at 25 Broad Street, New York 4, N.Y., or communicate their interest by telephone to Bowling Green 9-0056. Upon request, American importers may also obtain quick and efficient service in matters involving individual specifications. No fee is charged for such services.

DEADLINE FOR FILING CLAIMS UNDER 6TH RESTITUTION ACT EXTENDED. The deadline for filing claims under the 6th Restitution Act has been extended to December 31, 1951, by a decree of the Austrian Government dated July 21, 1950 (Official Gazette No. 170).

LIGNITE DEPOSITS DISCOVERED IN CARINTHIA. Large-scale lignite (brown coal) deposits were recently discovered in the Lavanttal, Carinthia, which will have an estimated yield of at least 25-30 million tons of lignite ready to be mined. The calorific value of this newly-found lignite is about 4000 calories. The coal will be removed underground. Present plans call for a daily output of 2000 tons within the next four years and the use of modern mining equipment. 1200 miners will be employed on a full-time basis.

PETROLEUM SEARCH IN UPPER AUSTRIA INTENSIFIED. The search for petroleum deposits in Upper Austria, which was begun in 1948 by the Rohoel-Gewinnungs-A.G. at the request of the Federal Geological Service, will soon be intensified, according to the Socialist News Service. To date, 60 flat drillings have already been made in the Bad Hall area between the Salzach and Mattig rivers. The results obtained have strengthened the belief in oil circles that far-reaching petroleum deposits exist at great depths. In recent weeks two rich iodine sources, with an extraordinarily high bromine content, were also discovered in this same area. Drillings are expected to be made in the Graz basin as well, since this area is also presumed to be rich in petroleum deposits.

GROWTH OF AUSTRIA'S GLASS INDUSTRY. After having overcome the damages caused by the war, Austria's glass industry has made rapid strides in increasing its facilities and output. Since the end of the war, the number of glass-works increased to 20 and the number of glass-manu-





10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-9

facturing firms to 45. These now have a combined payroll of 9,500 workers and employees. In 1949 the industry produced glassware with a value of some 315 million schillings, about one fourth of which was exported. As compared to those of prewar years, present production schedules have been considerably expanded, and today there are almost no types of glassware that the industry is not capable of manufacturing. About 60 million schillings have been invested in the industry since the end of the war and an additional 40 million will be placed at its disposal in the course of the next three years. These investments are calculated not only to increase the quality of Austrian glassware and modernize production methods but also to raise actual production by about 50 million schillings per year.

LENZING SPUN RAYON WORKS ACHIEVE RECORD OUTPUT. The Lenzing Staple Fiber Rayon Works reached a new record output of 2,796 tons in the month of September, according to the Austrian Economic News Service. This represents an average production of 93.2 tons per day. The importance of these figures is underscored by the fact that the average daily output in September 1949 was only about 40 tons, a figure that was doubled by March 1950. Also in September, the Lenzing Works made large-scale export deliveries to the United States and India. Further important orders from these as well as other countries have already been received and are in the process of being filled. The mill's supply of raw materials, of both domestic and foreign origin, has been assured for future production.

INCREASED EXPORTS OF AUSTRIAN FRAME HOUSES. During the first half of this year Austria has exported 29,459 cubic meters (1 cubic meter equals 35.316 cubic feet) of wooden frame houses, thereby almost equalling the 32,432 cubic meters exported during the entire year of 1949. This year the largest client was Czechoslovakia with 10,315 cu. m., followed by France and the Netherlands with 8,591 and 8,266 cu. m. respectively. The wood house industry received a fresh impetus recently with the conclusion of an agreement with Australia, according to which 3,000 frame houses for a value of 6 million pounds sterling will go to that country. The houses will be assembled on the spot by Austrian specialists and will be made fully ready for occupancy. The entire order will be filled over a period of one and a half years. The capacity of Austria's frame house industry is estimated at at least 15,000 units per year.

"THE THIRD MAN" HELPS AUSTRIA'S EXPORT TRADE. Ever since the British released the motion picture, "The Third Man", the sale of Austrian zithers has shown a marked upward trend with a considerable increase in orders from abroad. Other musical instruments of Austrian make, particularly accordions and brass instruments, are also in great demand in foreign markets.

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN AUSTRIA. On September 30, the number of unemployed officially registered in Austria was 86,129, or 3.8% less than during the month of August. Of these, 62,143 were receiving government relief. To prevent a rise in unemployment during the coming winter, a special inter-departmental committee on full employment recently introduced a series of concrete measures aimed at intensifying construction work during the winter.

That the employment situation in Austria continues to remain good is evidenced by the statistics released early in October by the Austrian Social Security Associations. According to these, the number of persons carrying health insurance at the end of September almost reached the two million mark (1,992,000). Compared to the month of August, there was an increase of 12,000 persons employed in industry and commerce, although there was a seasonal decline of 5,000 in agriculture. Today Austrian industry and commerce employ 8,000 more people than last year.

VIENNESE FASHION SHOW TO TOUR EUROPE. An Austrian fashion show sponsored by the Fashion Section of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce began a tour of major European cities on September 25th. The show will appear in several large cities of Western Germany, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and the Netherlands. Vienna's leading fashion designers have

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all contributed to the impressive array of haute couture, hats and furs, as well as of such manufactured goods as jerseys, hand-woven and hand-embroidered fabrics, sportswear, Tyrolean costumes and hats, blouses, lingerie, shoes, umbrellas and leather goods.

LIPIZAN STALLIONS OF SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL ARRIVE IN NEW YORK. Fourteen snow-white Lipizan horses of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna, the history of which was briefly outlined in issue No. 12, Vol. III of the Austrian Information bulletin (September 29, 1950), arrived in the port of New York on board the S.S. "American Importer" on October 2, 1950, for their guest tour in the United States and Canada. They were met at the docks by General Tuckerman and other officials of the National Horse Show Association of America, as well as by Dr. Franz Matsch, the Austrian Consul General; Dr. Franz H. Leitner, the Austrian Consul; and a large number of reporters and press photographers. The stallions were then moved to the Kennilworth Riding Academy at Rye, Westchester County, where they remained until their first appearance in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

On October 11 the Spanish Riding School previewed its program for officials of the National Horse Show Association of America as well as for a group of newsmen and radio and television reporters who had been invited to Rye by the Association and the Austrian Consulate General. The show was characterized by those present as the finest example of equestrian art that had ever been seen in America. The Spanish Riding School's public performances will be given in Harrisburg, Pa., from October 23 to the 28th; in Madison Square Garden, New York, from October 31 to November 7; and in Toronto, Canada, from November 14 to the 22nd.

AUSTRIAN STUDENT GROUP TO ARRIVE NOVEMBER 13 ON GOOD-WILL TOUR. This year's Austrian Student Good-Will Tour, sponsored by the Office of Student Travel, will begin on November 13 with the arrival in New York of a new group of singers, dancers, actors and yodelers. The tour promises to be as highly successful as last year's tour when the group, under the direction of its permanent director Dr. Oskar Bock of the University of Vienna, gave over three hundred concerts and many radio and television performances. Their repertory includes a wide variety of lively Austrian folk songs and dances, all presented, of course, in dashing and colorful costume. Although one or two of last year's star performers are again coming this year, the other members of the group will be entirely new to American audiences. This rotation of members is in line with the group's policy and purpose. This year's tour is already well booked, although several openings are still available. Colleges, organizations and individuals interested in booking the group are invited to contact Dr. Bock through the Information Department of the Austrian Consulate General, 509 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. The group will tour the Atlantic seaboard until January 1, after which time they will move toward the West Coast.

CONSTRUCTION OF SECOND SEMMERING TUNNEL PROGRESSING WELL. The construction of a second tunnel under the Semmering, which was begun last September, is progressing so well that the mountain is expected to be pierced some time next spring. A 350-meter stretch of the tunnel has been completed at the southern end of the massif and excavations at the northern end have already cleared 600 meters of gallery. Some 370 meters of tunnel tubing have already been laid. When completed, the tunnel will be 1500 meters long. To date, about 35,000 cubic meters (1 cubic meter equals 35.316 cubic feet) of earth and rock have been removed and 12,000 cubic meters of concrete poured. The project now employs 535 workers at both ends of the tunnel. This figure is soon to be increased so that the entire project will be completed on schedule, namely by the end of 1951. Construction work will continue throughout the winter.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE STATE OPERA HOUSE. Reconstruction work on the Vienna opera house on the Ring, which was seriously damaged by bombing in the closing weeks of the war, has progressed so far that early in October some 350 workers were able to celebrate completion of its new framework. The final plans for rebuilding the opera house had only been drawn up in 1948 and it is only since mid-1949 that the work has been expedited to such an extent that the first phase can now be regarded as completed. The bare brickwork is practically finished and



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the entire structure, except for the central part of the side wings, has been roofed in. The front of the State Opera House has already regained its normal appearance. Construction on the frame of the building is so well advanced that intensive work on the interior of the building can now be started. In fact, a book exhibition will be held this November in the foyer of the opera. If sufficient funds are made available and no technical obstacles arise, it is expected that the opera house will be fully restored by 1953.

CARE MISSION CHIEF IN AUSTRIA RETURNS TO THE UNITED STATES. Colonel Hynes, Chief of the Care Mission in Austria since 1946, recently returned home to the United States. Colonel Hynes, who had already been engaged in welfare work in Austria after World War I when he was on the staff of former President Hoover, is being succeeded by Mr. George Mathues who is familiar with Austrian welfare needs as a result of his previous position as head of the American Society of Friends (Quakers) in Austria. During Colonel Hynes' tenure of office, about 800,000 Care packages were sent to Austria. These brought considerable aid and relief to many Austrians, especially children, during the period of Austria's greatest need. Chancellor Figl and Minister of Social Welfare Maisel expressed their warmest thanks to the departing Chief of the Care Mission for his beneficial activity.

THE MAGDALENBERG EXCAVATIONS. The excavations of a Roman city that were systematically begun two years ago at the Magdalenberg near Klagenfurt, Carinthia, have attracted no less than 20,000 Austrian and foreign visitors this summer. The excavation site, which is about twenty kilometers from Klagenfurt, can only be reached by jeep over steep mountain roads. As far back as the year 1502 a peasant tilling the land unearthed a bronze statue on the 3000-foot-high mountain. This statue was named the "Youth of Helenenberg" and was later used by Albrecht Duerer as a model for a wood carving. Today it stands in the Museum of the History of Art in Vienna.

As time went by, more and more evidence of past eras were found on the slopes of the mountain, but it was only toward the middle of the 19th century that serious scientific research was undertaken at the Magdalenberg. In 1848 the Director of the Archeological Institute, Professor Camillo Praschniker, began large-scale excavation work on the buried city. He was assisted by a few students who slept in tents and cooked their own meals over a makeshift fire. Despite their rather limited facilities, this group did achieve remarkable success.

Today, the terraced Roman city, which was built clear around the mountain between 15 B.C. and 45 A.D. is easily recognizable, the former forum, temple and state building having been completely unearthed.

AUSTRIA ISSUES NEW AIR-MAIL STAMPS. After an interruption of almost three and a half years, new air-mail stamps were again issued in Austria on October 17. The new stamps were designed by Prof. Hans Strohofer and engraved by Hubert Woyty. This issue does not show landscapes or cities, as was the case with previous air-mail stamps, but illustrates various native Austrian birds. The new air-mail series is the sixth Austria has issued. Previous series were issued in 1918, 1922, 1925, 1935 and 1947.

GUEST TOUR OF THE VIENNA PHILHARMONIC A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS. From September 25 to October 24 the Vienna Philharmonic made a guest tour of the Scandinavian countries, Western Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland. All the concerts were conducted by Wilhelm Furtwaengler. In all the cities where it performed, the famous orchestral group had a triumphant success. In Copenhagen, the royal family led the audience in enthusiastic applause. In Finland, Prof. Furtwaengler and Prof. Hanzl, Chairman of the Philharmonic, were guests at the country estate of Jan Sibelius where the aging composer has been living in seclusion for the past 15 years. The artistry of the orchestra's concerts in Helsinki was summarized by the paper "Helsingin Sanomat" in these words: "In one respect Vienna has not changed: it remains the heart of the world of music!"

60 MILLION LISTENERS HEARD THE SALZBURG FESTIVAL THIS YEAR. This was the sixth year that Radio Salzburg broadcast the great performances of the Salzburg Festival to the entire world. In spite of its unbelievably small staff, the station was the center of Europe's radio network for





10/21/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-12

the few weeks of the international music and theater festival. Thirteen European countries, with a combined total of 850 radio stations, were hooked up with Radio Salzburg. Conservative estimates place the number of listeners at 60 million with about 30 million receivers tuned in to the broadcasts. More than 20,000 kilometers (1 km. is 0.624 miles) of cables were laid in Austria and abroad, a distance which is equivalent to one half the circumference of the earth at the equator. Hundreds of booster stations, one every 75 kilometers, were used. The broadcast network encompassed Athens, Palermo and Messina to the south, Helsinki to the northeast, Toulouse and Bordeaux to the west and London, Oslo, Copenhagen and Stockholm to the north. Of the musical performances, 19 were transmitted direct and 7 from tape recordings; all three plays, "Verschwender", "Twelfth Night" and "Everyman", were also broadcast. These figures do not include a series of minor broadcasts which were also made available to foreign listeners.

AUSTRIA TO HAVE TWO NEW MUSIC FESTIVALS IN 1951. In 1951 Austria will have two new music festivals. The one to be held at Bad Ischl will be devoted to the work of Franz Lehar who spent most of his productive life in this charming village, which was the former imperial Salzkammergut resort. The handsome Ischl "Kurhaus" will be remodelled into a festival house. In mid-summer, when the resort is always gay and fashionable, Bad Ischl will present an ideal setting for the world-beloved productions of the master. After an interruption of 15 years, "The Vienna Season Festival" will be revived between mid-May and mid-June. During the festival, a well-rounded program of opera, operetta, orchestral and instrumental music will be offered. The festival will be highlighted by the presentation of Mozart operas in an outdoor setting at the Hetzendorf Castle and at the former imperial summer residence of Schoenbrunn.

AUSTRIAN PIANIST WINS FIRST PRIZE IN GENEVA MUSIC COMPETITION. The 21-year-old Viennese pianist Ingrid Haebler, a student of Prof. Wuehrer and Prof. Paul Weingarten, won first prize at the 6th International Music Competition in Geneva early in October. Sixty women had entered the competition.

AUSTRIA'S TOURIST SEASON AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS. The 1950 summer season was the most successful Austrian tourist season since the war. According to the figures available to date, which cover the months of May, June, July and about two-thirds of August, foreign tourists made a total of 2.47 million overnight reservations as compared to some 700,000 recorded during the summer of 1949. This means that this year more than three times as many foreign visitors came to Austria. Leading the list of foreign tourists was England with 450,000 overnight reservations, followed by Switzerland with 393,000, Italy with 369,000, Germany with 355,000 and the United States with 160,500. The number of American tourists who visited Austria was much greater than in recent years. By the end of August, 31,000 permits for the trip to Austria had been issued to American citizens in New York alone; thousands of other Americans obtained their permits in London, Paris or Bern. According to the Austrian National Bank, the amount of foreign exchange earned from tourism reached the equivalent of 310.8 million schillings by the end of August. Of this amount, 31% was in British currency and 25% in U.S. dollars. Including the winter season, Austria will have added about 450 million schillings to its foreign exchange holdings during 1950, as a result of its income from tourism. The Deputy Chief of the ECA Mission in Austria recently stated in Innsbruck that the forthcoming winter season would be the best the Austrian tourist industry had ever known and that the foreign exchange earnings would be the greatest to date, providing Austria remained, as during the summer, the least expensive country for tourists.

AUSTRIA DEFEATS YUGOSLAVIA 7 TO 2 IN INTERNATIONAL SOCCER MEET. On October 8 the Austrian National Soccer Team defeated Yugoslavia's top eleven 7 to 2 in the first major international soccer encounter this fall. The game was played in the Vienna Stadium before an enthusiastic crowd of 65,000 soccer fans. At half-time the Austrians were leading 3 to 1. This victory over one of the best national teams in Europe is Austria's seventh consecutive international triumph.

The first of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.

The second of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.

The third of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.

The fourth of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.

The fifth of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.

The sixth of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.

The seventh of the international soccer matches was played between the United States and the Soviet Union. The match was held in New York City and was a very close contest. The United States won the match by a score of 1-0. The match was played on a very hot day and the players were very tired. The match was a very good one and it was a very interesting one.



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